

Ad Hoc Committee on Naming of Streets and Building
May 16, 2012

1. Call to Order

Chair Bill Ryan called the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Naming of Streets and Buildings to order at 5:05 p.m. in Room B of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

Present: Mr. Ryan and Mr. Schaefer

Excused: Mr. Paulhus

2. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2012 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Opportunity for the Public to Speak

Jane Ann Bobbitt offered her support for naming a street in recognition of the work of Dr. Ralph Gilman. Dr. Gilman was an important part of both the university and town communities. He served as the Town's Health Director for many years.

Lon Hultgren reviewed the people he has worked with over the years who have exhibited a strong interest in transportation. Of those names the two residents whose interests included transit advocacy were Garry Zimmer and Dennison Nash. Mr. Hultgren is in support of naming the intermodal center in honor of their work.

Pat Suprenant suggested the name of General William Eaton who grew up in Mansfield. Ms. Suprenant offered a short history of his achievements noting he was a friend of Thomas Jefferson. General Eaton was born and buried in Woodstock.

Town Historian Roberta Smith stated she believes the roads should be named after someone who has a connection to this area of Mansfield. William Henry Freeman was an early settler, a Lt. Col. in the Marines and owned 52 acres in the area. Ms. Smith also noted the section of Mansfield in which the development is located was called the North Society.

Mr. Ryan and Mr. Schaefer agreed to move Item 5, Discussion of Naming Philosophy, as the next order of business.

4. Review of Candidates Received to Date

Mr. Ryan reported over 50 names have been submitted by residents.

5. Discussion of Naming Philosophy

Members agreed they are in favor of naming the streets for historical figures from Mansfield's past. The name of the intermodal center, however, does not need to follow this pattern.

6. Review of Streets and Buildings to be Named

The Town Clerk will submit the current names under consideration to the Fire Marshal's office to make sure they are not too similar to existing street names. Members discussed possible names for the main street through the development.

7. Other Business

No additional business was discussed

8. Set Next Meeting Date and Time

The Committee agreed to set the next meeting for June 13, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

9. Opportunity for the Public to Speak

No additional comments were offered.

11. Adjournment

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Stanton
Town Clerk